

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1. 9422
Fr 8562
Reserve

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Washington, D. C.

FEB 7 1947
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

December, 1946

States of Origin for Estimated Major Movements of
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables During the Month of January, 1947

Information just released by the Association of American Railroads indicates that the demand for refrigerator cars continues strong due to the heavy seasonal movement of fresh fruits and vegetables and a considerable backlog of canned goods and other commodities requiring protective service. The loading of citrus from Florida, California, Texas and Arizona; lettuce from California and Arizona, and vegetables and tomatoes from the Rio Grande Valley is particularly heavy. The demand for potatoes has been somewhat lighter than usual, because of reduced consumption resulting from the continued warm weather and also because dealers knew that a bountiful crop was available in the country and have been in no hurry to obtain their supplies.

The shortage of refrigerator cars is due partly to some delay in moving empties during the coal strike and to the heavy pre-holiday movement of perishables. Now that normal operations have been resumed, improvement should result in the handling of refrigerator cars. The prospective heavy requirements are such that both loaded and empty refrigerator cars should be given expeditious handling and every possible action taken to eliminate delays.

According to the BAE, vegetable production during the coming winter is expected to be less than last year but well above the average. It is stated that December 1 indications for 13 crops, which comprised roughly 90 percent of the 1946 winter tonnage, point to a 1947 winter tonnage 4 percent less than 1946, but 26 percent above the 1936-45 average. The smaller tonnage indicated this year is said to be caused by a 5 percent reduction in acreage.

Our estimates indicate that approximately 87,259 carloads of fresh fruits and vegetables will be shipped during the month of January 1947, compared with a revised estimate of 74,212 cars in December 1946, and an increase of 4.0 percent as compared with the 83,916 cars shipped during January 1946.

Carload shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to originate in the North Pacific Region during January 1947, have been estimated to reach approximately 13,240. Those that will move in volume are shown below:

North Pacific Region

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Estimated carloads</u>		
	<u>Washington</u>	<u>Oregon</u>	<u>Idaho</u>
Apples	4,750	450	125
Mixed Deciduous Fruits	40	20	-
Onions	10	140	200
Pears	340	380	40
Potatoes	200	1,000	5,500
Turnips & Rutabagas	30	-	-

Fresh fruits and vegetables estimated to move in volume in carload lots from the South Pacific Region during January 1947, are as follows:

South Pacific Region

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Estimated carloads</u>	
	<u>California</u>	<u>Arizona</u>
Carrots	1,060	580
Cauliflower	790	800
Celery	1,600	-
Broccoli	140	65
Cabbage	125	180
Grapefruit	100	300
Grapes	100	-
Lemons	1,300	8
Lettuce & Romaine	5,000	1,600
Mixed Citrus Fruits	60	45
Mixed Vegetables	1,290	925
Oranges & Satsumas	3,900	150
Peas, green	60	-
Potatoes	900	8

Total estimated rail shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to originate in the Rocky Mountain Region during January 1947 will aggregate 2,895 carloads. Of this total 66 percent are expected to move from Colorado and 14 percent from Utah, while the balance, or 20 percent are estimated to originate in Montana and Wyoming. The shipments to originate in Montana will approximate 200 cars of potatoes while Wyoming shipments are expected to consist of 400 cars of potatoes. The important carload shipments estimated to originate in Colorado and Utah are listed below by commodities:

Rocky Mountain Region

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Estimated carloads</u>	
	<u>Colorado</u>	<u>Utah</u>
Apples	50	8
Mixed Vegetables	140	4
Onions	200	15
Potatoes	1,500	350

Carload shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to originate in the North Central Region during January 1947, are estimated to be 5,115. More than 95 percent of these movements are estimated to consist of potatoes. These potato shipments are expected to originate as follows: 1,800 cars from Nebraska; 1,600 cars from North Dakota; 1,200 cars from Minnesota; 150 cars from South Dakota, and 35 cars from Iowa. The only other important shipments will approximate 250 cars of onions and 20 cars each of mixed vegetables and cabbage from Minnesota.

Principal carload shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to originate in the Southwestern Region (excluding Texas) during the month of January 1947, will total about 1,085. Those to move in volume are estimated to be 1,010 cars of sweetpotatoes and 35 cars of mixed vegetables from Louisiana.

The estimated carload shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to originate in the Great Lakes Region during the month of January 1947 will approximate 1,780. The principal movements are listed below by commodities and States:

Great Lakes Region

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Illinois</u>	<u>Indiana</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>Michigan</u>	<u>Wisconsin</u>
Apples	40	8	-	40	-
Cabbage	-	-	-	5	100
Onions	10	45	40	360	40
Potatoes	-	3	2	600	400

Shipments of fruits and vegetables to originate in the New England Region during January 1947 should approximate 8,255 carloads. These will consist chiefly of potato shipments as follows: 8,000 cars from Maine; 140 cars from Connecticut and 90 cars from Massachusetts.

Carload shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to originate in the Middle Atlantic States during January 1947 have been estimated to total around 3,240. About 88 percent of these carload movements are expected to originate in New York State and 8 percent in West Virginia. The balance will be distributed throughout the States of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and will consist chiefly of potato and apple shipments as follows: for apples, West Virginia 225 carloads and Pennsylvania 40. Pennsylvania is expected to originate about 70 cars of potatoes and New Jersey 50 cars of sweetpotatoes. The principal movements for New York State follow:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Estimated carloads</u>
	<u>New York State</u>
Carrots	240
Beets	50
Cabbage	1,100
Mixed Vegetables	65
Onions	650
Potatoes	700

Principal carload shipments to originate in the Southern Region (excluding Florida) during January 1947, are estimated to be as follows:

Southern Region

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Estimated carloads</u>		
	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>South Carolina</u>	<u>Virginia</u>
Apples	-	-	475
Broccoli	-	35	-
Cabbage	-	175	-
Greens, except Spinach	75	25	120
Mixed Vegetables	50	30	10
Sweetpotatoes	2	60	-

In addition to the above 60 cars of sweetpotatoes are expected to originate in North Carolina and 30 cars in Tennessee.

Important carload shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables to originate in Texas and Florida during January 1947 are estimated as follows:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Estimated carloads</u>	
	<u>Texas</u>	<u>Florida</u>
Beans, snap & lima	-	270
Carrots	670	7
Cauliflower	15	90
Celery	-	2,170
Beets	55	-
Cabbage	910	1,015
Escarole	-	225
Grapefruit	3,600	1,800
Mixed Citrus	1,200	2,900
Mixed Vegetables	2,600	1,470
Oranges & Satsumas	700	6,000
Peas, green	5	70
Peppers, green	5	190
Potatoes	-	600
Spinach	980	-
Sweetpotatoes	230	-
Tangerines	-	1,000
Tomatoes	1	195

Transportation Facilities Division
Marketing Facilities Branch, PMA

